

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Enclosed, please find an Abstract which reflects the subject matter as now claimed.

Independent claims 1, 4, and 6 have been amended to incorporate “two cysteine residues.” It is believed that this change overcomes the 35 U.S.C. 112 first paragraph rejection. In particular, with the incorporation of “two cysteine residues” in each of the independent claims, the peptide does not need to be fully formed prior to disulfide bond formation, i.e., the peptide can be partially synthesized and oxidized contemporaneously, forming a disulfide bridge between the two cysteine residues.

Independent claims 1, 4, and 6 have also been amended to incorporate “wherein the TT-232 peptide contains a disulfide bridge.” This change overcomes the 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph rejection by providing antecedent basis for “the disulfide bridge.”

Further, “via liquid phase synthesis” has been incorporated into independent claims 1, 4, and 6. This change distinguishes the instant claims over the cited prior art. Specifically, Keri’s disclosure is limited to preparation of TT-232 on solid phase, Mutter’s disclosure is limited to the use of a soluble polymer in the synthesis of proteins, and Bernard’s disclosure is limited to the use of a lipophilic group in the synthesis of proteins. Further, neither Mutter nor Bernard discloses the preparation of TT-232. Thus, none of the cited prior art references contemplate the synthesis of TT-232 in solution per se. In contrast, the instant claims disclose the synthesis of TT-232 in solution without the use of a soluble polymer or a lipophilic group.

It is, therefore, believed that these claims and their dependent claims are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure